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ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

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SEPTEMBER 2,1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT
FROM: HENRY A. KISSINGER
SUBJECT: INFORMATION ITEMS

NICARAGUAN ELECTIONS: RETURNS FROM YESTERDAY'S PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS IN NICARAGUA INDICATE GENERAL ANASTASIO SOMOZA, JR. WILL WIN AN OVERWHELMING VICTORY OVER HIS OPPONENT, EDMUNDO PAGUAGA. SOMOZA WILL TAKE OFFICE DECEMBER 1 FOR A SIX YEAR TERM. UNDER THE NEW CONSTITUTION THAT WENT INTO EFFECT LAST APRIL, HE WOULD BE BARRED FROM SEEKING REELECTION. SOMOZA ALREADY SERVED ONE FIVE-YEAR TERM AS PRESIDENT OF NICARAGUA FROM 1967 TO 1972, BUT HANDED OVER ADMINISTRATIVE POWER TO A TRIUMVIRATE UNTIL A NEW CONSTITUTION PERMITTED HIM TO RUN AGAIN. IN THE INTERIM PERIOD, HE KEPT THE ALL-POWERFUL POST OF CHIEF OF THE ARMED FORCES.

GENSCHER ENDORSES EUROPEAN ASPECTS OF GISCARD D'ESTANG STATEMENT: SPEAKING AT A PRESS CONFERENCE ON AUGUST 30, WEST GERMAN FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER WELCOMED FRENCH PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTANG'S RECENT DECLARATION THAT FRANCE INTENDS TO MAKE MOVES DURING THE COMING MONTHS TOWARD A POLITICAL ORGANIZATION OF EUROPE. GENSCHER FURTHER SAID THAT IT IS IMPORTANT TO REACH A POLITICAL CONSENSUS ON EUROPE'S ECONOMIC AND STABILITY POLICY. THE FOREIGN MINISTER SUMMARIZED THE PRINCIPAL TASKS OF FRG FOREIGN POLICY AS THE STRENGTHENING OF THE EUROPEAN ALLIANCE, THE CONSOLIDATION OF NATO, AND THE RETENTION OF BERLIN AS THE CRITERION FOR THE POLICY OF DETENTE.

CUBA AND THE OAS: COSTA RICAN FOREIGN MINISTER FACIO TOLD OUR CHARGE FRIDAY HIS MEETINGS IN BOGOTA AND CARACAS HAD FINALLY RESULTED IN AN AGREEMENT THAT THIS WEEK HIS COUNTRY, COLUMBIA, AND VENEZUELA WOULD PROPOSE CONVOKING THE OAS PERMANENT COUNCIL ON SEPTEMBER 16 OR 17 TO APPROVE A MID-NOVEMBER COMMITTEE OF CONSULTATION MEETING OF FOREIGN MINISTERS IN QUITO TO CONSIDER CUBAN SANCTIONS. THE FOREIGN MINISTERS PRESUMABLY WOULD VOTE (BY TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY, FACIO CONFIRMS) TO LIFT SANCTIONS, LEAVING EACH STATE TO DETERMINE ITS OWN CUBAN POLICY. STILL TO BE DECIDED IS WHETHER THE PERMANENT COUNCIL SHOUD ESTABLISH A "STUDY COMMISSION" TO REPORT TO THE NOVEMBER MEETING. THE CONTEXT OF THE

DOS Review Completed.

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STUDY, WHICH FACIO IS INCLINED TO FAVOR, NO LONGER WILL BE TO DETERMINE WHETHER CUBA HAS CEASED TO CONSTITUTE A THREAT TO THE HEMISPHERE, BUT WHETHER THE CHANGING TIMES DO NOT WARRANT A NEW APPROACH TO CUBA WHICH NECESSITATES LIFTING THE SANCTIONS. THE SHIFT IN STRATEGY FROM THE EARLIER PLAN ARISES FROM THE CONCERN OF VENEZUELA AND COLOMBIA THAT CUBA NOT BE PLACED IN JUDGEMENT BY THE OAS -- A POSITION CASTRO HAS TOLD THEM HE WOULD FIND INTOLERABLE. STATE IS INSTRUCTING OUR CHARGE TO REPLY TO FACIO THAT WE DO NOT FEEL ATTACHED TO A COMMISSI OF INQUIRY, WHICH WAS THEIR SUGGESTION ANYWAY, ALTHOUGH WE DO BELIEVE THE FINAL RESOLUTION SHOULD MENTION THE 1964 RESOLUTION AND CIRCUMSTANCES OF ITS IMPOSITION; THE CHARGE IS ALSO TO REPLY THAT WE WOULD NOT OPPOSE A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF CONSULTATION IN NOVEMBER BUT DO NOT AGREE IT SHOULD BE AT THE FOREIGN MINISTERS LEVEL.
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